

THE WEEK



THE WEEK MAGAZINE
EDUCATION PROGRAM

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Issue 1152

The Week at a Glance



5	House in turmoil as McCarthy voted out	News	The House of Representatives was thrown into chaos after eight GOP hard-liners joined with Democrats to oust Republican Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy, a first in the 234-year history of the chamber.	Government American History
6	Supreme Court: Will it dismantle the 'administrative state'?	News	The new Supreme Court term began this week – the third since Republicans' rushed installation of Justice Amy Coney Barrett created a 6-3 right-wing supermajority – and the next item on the conservative bloc's agenda is a "whole-sale assault on the administrative state."	Legal Studies Government
7	Lansing, Mich.: Parents to face trial	News	The Michigan Supreme Court allowed prosecutors to pursue an unprecedented case against the parents of a 15-year-old who killed four people and injured seven at Oxford High School in 2021.	Legal Studies American History
16	GOP: Seeking a new Trump challenger	Opinion	In the most recent GOP presidential debate, the candidates were silent on the 91 criminal charges that former president and current presidential candidate Donald Trump is facing. Is it time for a new challenger?	Politics
16	Feinstein: A trailblazer's complicated legacy	Opinion	California Democrat Dianne Feinstein, who died last week at age 90, was elected to the Senate in the "Year of the Woman" when – buoyed by women's anger over the rampant misogyny on show at the Clarence Thomas- Anita Hill hearings – the female ranks in the upper chamber grew from three to six.	Government American History

BRIEFLY: Quick Questions & Ideas To Engage Students

Lansing, Mich.: Parents to face trial PAGE 7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. According to the article, why are the parents of a 15-year-old Michigan boy facing trial? 2. Why is this case so significant? 3. In what instances, if any, should parents of school shooters be held accountable? 4. Based on information from the article, which people or groups in addition to the shooter bear responsibility for this shooting, and why?
Swift and Kelce: Rocking the NFL's world PAGE 17	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you know about Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce? 2. According to the article, what has been the economic impact of their alleged romance? 3. Why are some conservatives attacking the couple? What have been other positive and negative reactions? 4. Why do you think some people are so mesmerized by celebrities?
Kicking back: New calls for a four-day workweek PAGE 37	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you think this article is about, based on its headline? 2. According to the article, what would be the benefits of a four-day workweek? What could be the downsides? 3. Why does the columnist say that a four day workweek is "no picnic"? 3. What do you think is the origin of the five day workweek?

FEATURE OF THE WEEK: The Cover

Invite students to look at this week's cover and answer the questions.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the illustration on this week's cover. 2. What story from this week's issue does the cover image represent? What political leader is represented? 3. What do you think the illustrator's point of view is about this news story? 4. What techniques does the illustrator use to represent his or her point of view?
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MAIN ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK #1: Based on the article "House in turmoil as McCarthy voted out" (p. 4)	
VOCABULARY	turmoil, antagonist, steep, enraged, ouster, coalitions, razor thin, maneuvers, caucus, debacle, vacate. chaos, absolve, lamentable, reign, concessions, gambit, plausible, apostate, debt-ceiling, sabotage
DISCUSSION	1. What does a fight over the leadership in the House of Representatives have to do with your life and the communities you're a part of? 2. What do you think makes an effective Speaker of the House?
DO	1. Write the following excerpt from Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, and ask students to interpret it: "The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment." Explain that this excerpt is the only one where the role of Speaker of the House is referenced. The Constitution does not define the role, but it has evolved into one of the most important and powerful positions in the government. 2. Ask student groups to list everything they know about the history, role, powers of, and current status of the Speaker of the House. Invite each group to create a list of five W/H questions about one of these categories. Examples: Who is the current Speaker? Who was the first Speaker? What are the powers of the Speaker? Why is the Speaker's role so important? How is the Speaker elected? Direct each group to exchange lists of questions with another group and challenge them to read and annotate the article and conduct research to learn the answers. This site and this site can assist with research. 3. Ask students what they know about the current status of the Speaker of the House. Explain that recent Speaker Kevin McCarthy was voted out of office last week, the first time that has happened in U.S. history so there is not currently a Speaker. 4. Invite student groups to create an iceberg diagram on a piece of paper, making sure that there is a tip, a water line, and a larger area below the surface. Their drawings should be large enough so that students can take notes within the iceberg. Alternatively, you can distribute the iceberg template located here . Ask students to list everything they know about why there is no Speaker in the "tip" area of the iceberg. Questions they should answer include: What happened? What choices were made in this situation? By whom? Who was affected? When did it happen? Why did it happen? Then, in the bottom part of the iceberg (under the water), they should go deeper to answer questions like, "What factors influenced the choices made by the individuals and groups involved in this event?" These factors might include events from the past. Finally, above the tip of the iceberg, challenge groups to identify at least three effects of not having a current Speaker of the House to the nation, to the congress, and to students personally. 5. Invite groups to share their iceberg diagrams with another group. Challenge them to reach consensus on the most significant cause and most significant effect of not last week's ouster of Kevin McCarthy.
EXTEND	Invite students to learn more about who's in the running to become the next Speaker of the House.

MAIN ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK #2: Based on the articles, "Feinstein: A trailblazer's complicated legacy" (p. 16) and "The steely centrist who was the longest-serving female senator" (p. 39)	
VOCABULARY	trailblazer, legacy, buoyed, chamber, rectified, frail, gerontocracy, octogenarians, progressive, moderate, predecessor, spearheading, pragmatist, bipartisan, consensus, orthodoxy, mystifying, flinty, centrist, imperious, vacated
DISCUSS	1. How is a legacy created? 2. Should there be an age limit for elected officials? Explain your answer.
DO	1. Distribute four sticky notes to each student. Invite them to use the sticky notes to complete these sentences using no more than six words. Abraham Lincoln's legacy is _____. President Roosevelt's legacy is _____. Barack Obama's legacy is _____. Donald Trump's legacy is _____. Post notes on a wall and invite students to read and group answers. 2. Hold a class discussion on the term, "legacy." Discuss what a legacy is, why political leaders are often described by their legacies, whether they think it's important to have a legacy, and what types of characteristics or accomplishments could be part of a political leader's legacy. 3. Introduce this sentence, and challenge students to answer it using no more than six words: Senator Dianne Feinstein's legacy is _____. Invite them to read and annotate the articles to help with their answers. Explain that an obituary is a notice of someone's death that typically includes the deceased person's name, age, date of birth and death, and information about their life, such as their occupation, hobbies, and accomplishments. The purpose is to inform people about the death of someone and celebrate the life of the deceased. 4. Invite student groups to share their six-word legacies for Senator Feinstein and challenge them to reach consensus on one six-word legacy. Have each group present its answers to the class. Discuss why Senator Feinstein's legacy is called complicated in one of the article's headlines. Do students think most political leaders' legacies are complicated? Why or why not? 5. Direct students to select one of the other political leaders or newsmakers from this week's issue. Challenge them to imagine that they are asked to create an obituary for this person, including information about his or her life and legacy.
EXTEND	Invite students to watch Senator Feinstein's first congressional speech .

* Note : On your computer or mobile device, click or tap blue links to access linked content. Visit www.theweek.com/teachers to see all our lesson guides.